

# Grass Valley School District

## STUDENT CONDUCT

BP 5100

### Conduct

The Governing Board believes that all students have the right to be educated in a positive learning environment free from disruptions. Students shall be expected to exhibit appropriate conduct that does not infringe upon the rights of others or interfere with the school program while on school grounds, while going to or coming from school, while at school activities, and while on district transportation.

Conduct is considered appropriate when students are diligent in study, careful with school property, courteous, and respectful toward their teachers, other staff, students, and volunteers.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school site develops standards of conduct and discipline consistent with district policies and administrative regulations. Students and parents/guardians shall be notified of district and school rules related to conduct.

Prohibited student conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Conduct that endangers students, staff, or others
2. Conduct that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment.
3. Harassment of students or staff, including bullying, intimidation, so-called "cyberbullying," hazing or initiation activity, ridicule, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause bodily harm or emotional suffering. **Bullying is the repeated disrespectful behavior toward another student. This can include physical, verbal and/or relational bullying. Relational bullying is the use of peer pressure and manipulation to isolate a target and hurt the other student's feelings.**

Cyberbullying includes the posting of harassing messages, direct threats, social cruelty, or other harmful text or images on the Internet, social networking sites, or other digital technologies, as well as breaking into another person's account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation or friendships.

4. Damage to or theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district
5. Possession or use of laser pointers on school premises, unless used for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose, including employment (Penal Code 417.27)  
Prior to bringing a laser pointer on school premises, students shall first obtain permission from the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall determine whether the requested use of the laser pointer is for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose.
6. Use of profane, vulgar, or abusive language
7. Plagiarism or dishonesty in school work or on tests
8. Inappropriate Attire
9. Tardiness or unexcused absence from school
10. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules

Employees are expected to provide appropriate supervision to enforce standards of conduct and, if they observe or receive a report of a violation of these standards, to immediately intervene or call for assistance. If an employee believes a matter has not been resolved, he/she shall refer the matter to his/her supervisor or administrator for further investigation.

Students who violate district or school rules and regulations may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, transfer to alternative programs in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation, and contact with local law enforcement as appropriate.

Students also may be subject to discipline in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation for any off-campus conduct during non-school hours, which poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or district property or disrupts the orderly delivery of the educational program.

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## STUDENT CONDUCT (continued)

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### Possession of Cellular Phones and Other Mobile Communications Devices

Except with prior consent for health reasons or prior administrative approval, students shall not use or visibly display during school hours any of the following: personal electronic signaling devices including, but not limited to pagers and beepers, or cellular/digital telephones for voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging or other mobile communications devices such as digital media players, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, digital scanners, and personal laptop computers. Neither the school nor the school district is responsible for any such devices that are lost, stolen or damaged under any circumstances.

No students shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician or surgeon to be essential for the student's health and the use of which is limited to health-related purposes. (Education Code 48901.5)

### Bullying/Cyberbullying

The Board desires to prevent bullying by establishing a positive, collaborative school climate and clear rules for student conduct.

The district provides students instruction in the classroom or other school settings that promotes communication, social skills, and assertiveness skills and may involve parents/guardians, staff, and community members in the development of strategies to prevent and respond to bullying.

School staff shall receive related professional development, including information about early warning signs of harassing/intimidating behaviors and effective prevention and intervention strategies. Parents/guardians and students also may be provided with similar information.

Students may submit a verbal or written complaint of conduct they consider to be bullying to a teacher or administrator. The Superintendent or designee may establish processes whereby students may submit anonymous reports of bullying. Complaints of bullying or harassment shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with site-level grievance procedures specified in AR 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment.

When a student is suspected of or reported to be using electronic or digital communications to engage in cyberbullying against other students or staff or to threaten district property, the investigation shall include documentation of the activity, identification of the source, and a determination of the impact or potential impact on school activity or school attendance. Students shall be encouraged to save and print any messages sent to them that they feel constitutes cyberbullying and to notify a teacher, principal, or other employee so that the matter may be investigated.

Cyberbullying conducted using district-owned equipment or on school premises, as well as off-campus cyberbullying that impacts school activity or school attendance, may be subject to discipline in accordance with district policies and regulations. If the student is using a social networking site or service that has terms of use that prohibit posting harmful material, the Superintendent or designee also may file a complaint with the Internet site or service to have the material removed.

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## STUDENT CONDUCT (continued)

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### Legal Reference:

#### EDUCATION CODE

- 35181 Governing board policy on responsibilities of students
- 35291-35291.5 Rules
- 44807 Duty concerning conduct of students
- 48900-48925 Suspension or expulsion, especially:
- 48908 Duties of students
- 51512 Prohibition use of electronic listening or recording device in classroom without permission

#### CIVIL CODE

- 1714.1 Liability of parents and guardians for willful misconduct of minor

#### PENAL CODE

- 417.25-417.27 Laser scope
- 647 Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; misdemeanor
- 647.7 Use of camera or other instrument to invade person's privacy; punishment

#### CODE OF REGULATIONS. TITLE 5

- 300-307 Duties of pupils
- UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
- 2000h-2000h6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments

#### COURT DECISIONS

- Emmett v. Kent School District No. 415, (2000) 92 F.Supp. 1088
- Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser, (1986) 478 U.S. 675
- Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District, (1969) 393 U.S. 503

### Management Resources:

#### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

- Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Governance and Policy Services Policy Brief, July 2007
- Protecting Our Schools: Governing Board Strategies to Combat School Violence, 1999

#### CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

- Bullying at School, 2003
- NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS
- Digital Discipline: Off-Campus Student Conduct, the First Amendment and Web Sites, School Law in Review 2001
- NATIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER PUBLICATIONS
- Set Straight on Bullies, 1989
- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
- Preventing Bullying; A Manual for Schools and Communities, 1998

#### WEB SITES

- CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
- California Coalition for Children's Internet Safety: <http://www.cybersafety.ca.gov>
- California Department of Education, Safe Schools Office: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/lss>
- Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use: <http://csriu.org> and <http://cyberbully.org>
- National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>
- National School Safety Center: <http://www.schoolsafety.us>
- U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>
- U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention: <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org>

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 03/10/09

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading/Adoption: 04/14/09